

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A nonwoven material comprising:

individual polymer fibers arranged in a predefined pattern wherein adjacently-located individual fibers overlap to form an organized structure and wherein said predefined pattern has the majority of said individual fibers lying in either a relatively machine-direction orientation, a relatively cross-machine direction orientation, or relatively both a machine-direction and cross-machine direction orientation so as to form an organized structure of polymer fibers, wherein each of said individual polymer fibers does not overlap itself and contacts no more than four other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

2. (canceled)

² ~~3.~~ (original) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein said polymer fibers comprise elastomeric fibers.

³ ~~4.~~ (original) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein said polymer fibers comprise non-elastomeric fibers.

5. (canceled)

⁴ ~~8.~~ (original) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein said material is an adhesive layer capable of joining two or more layers of material together in a laminate construction.

5 7. (currently amended) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein a majority of individual fibers ~~or are~~ oriented in relatively both the machine-direction and in the cross-machine direction.

6 8. (original) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein said polymer fibers comprise polyolefins.

9. (currently amended) A laminate comprising:
at least two facings adhered together by an adhesive layer;
said adhesive layer comprising individual polymer fibers arranged in a predefined pattern wherein adjacently-located individual fibers overlap to form an organized structure and wherein said predefined pattern has the majority of said individual fibers lying in either a relatively machine-direction orientation, a relatively cross-machine direction orientation, or relatively both a machine-direction and cross-machine direction orientation so as to form an organized structure of polymer fibers-, wherein each of said individual polymer fibers does not overlap itself and contacts no more than four other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

10. (original) The laminate of claim 9 wherein said polymer fibers comprise elastomeric fibers.

11. (original) The laminate of claim 9 wherein said polymer fibers comprise non-elastomeric fibers.

12. (currently amended) A nonwoven material comprising:
individual polymer fibers arranged in a predefined pattern wherein at least two of said fibers are joined to create an overlapping bonded structure-, wherein each of said

individual polymer fibers does not overlap itself and contacts no more than four other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

¹⁴~~13~~. (original) The nonwoven material of claim ¹³~~12~~ wherein said fibers are joined thermally.

¹⁵~~14~~. (original) The nonwoven material of claim ¹³~~12~~ wherein said fibers are continuous filaments.

15. (new claim) The nonwoven material of claim 1 wherein each of said individual polymer fibers contacts no more than two other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

¹²~~16~~. (new claim) The laminate of claim 9 wherein each of said individual polymer fibers contacts no more than two other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

17. (new claim) The nonwoven material of claim 12 wherein each of said individual polymer fibers contacts no more than two other adjacently-located individual polymer fibers.

18. (new claim) A nonwoven material comprising:
individual polymer fibers arranged in a predefined pattern wherein adjacently-located individual fibers overlap to form an organized structure and wherein each of said individual fibers in said predefined pattern has concurrently a machine-direction orientation component and a cross-machine direction orientation component so as to form an organized structure of polymer fibers, and wherein each of said individual polymer fibers does not overlap itself.